



A New Year for Washington Center

Fall Events

The 2014-2015 school year began with a buzz of excitement. Our staff has been so proud of the students as they have smoothly transitioned into the school routine. We are also happy to welcome new families and staff to the Washington Center community, and we invite everyone to get involved here at school.

Challenge Day at Bob Jones University, with a theme of "Keep Calm and Challenge On", was a fantastic event. From the families and students, to the BJU volunteers and Greenville County Schools staff, everyone

celebrated lots of student



Caleb Massey holding the Olympic torch for the Challenge Day Opening Ceremony.

successes. Many medals were awarded; and as always, the Olympic Village was fun for everyone. We send special thanks to the Greenville County Recreation District, to Bob Jones University, and to our Transportation Services for making this day so special.

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PTA Family Night

PTA Family Night is fast approaching. So, PLEASE mark your calendars for November 6th from 6 to 7:30. That evening our PTA will not only be serving a delicious dinner, but a number of agencies and service providers will be our special guests, coming to let you know about oppor-

tunities and resources available for your student and family. Agencies that have confirmed that they will be sending representatives are: Family Connection, DDSN/EI, Camp Spearhead, Camp Hope, SC Autism Society, Assistive Technology Project, FANS, Protection and Advocacy As-

sociation, and Pro Parents. Additionally, our own speech therapists will have a toy adaptation station available where they will be converting toys parents bring to them into ones that can be switch activated. Also we will be having a book fair that night in the Media Center so if your child

is a book lover, make sure to stop by! We look forward to seeing all of our families here at school on November 6.

On Family Night Amanda Wakely, Art Teacher, will have a display of our students' art work.

Dates to Remember

October 16-17	Student Holiday	November 6	PTA Family Night
October 30	Report Cards	November 26-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
October 31	Boo in the School	December 1	Progress Reports
November 4	Election Day/No School	December 19	Pictures with Santa
November 3 - 7	Book Fair	December 22 - January 2	Winter Break
November 6	Visit to the Children's Museum		

From the Principal's Desk



Dr. Penny Rogers,
Principal

With the cool weather we are having there can be no doubt that Fall is here, and by the time you read this article, we will have pretty much completed the first quarter of our school year. Unbelievable!

We have been busy getting back into routines, getting to know new students and staff members, having pictures made and hearing screened, and preparing for Challenge Day at Bob Jones, which was a big success. We are looking forward to future special

events such as "Boo in the School" and "Washington Center Day" at the Children's Museum. Also, numerous field trips and Community Based Instruction outings are planned or already underway. We continue to work to upgrade the technology we have available to utilize with classroom instruction and to seek additional business partners whose contributions of time and money enable us to make Washington Center even better for our students.

I am impressed daily by the commitment and caring of our staff members and the support we receive from parents. Though visitors often comment on our well maintained building and abundant equipment, they are always most enthusiastic about our students. We are all grateful for the opportunity to work with these remarkable young people, and we look forward to this being a very successful year for everyone.

Free and Reduced Lunch Application

"complete the Free/Reduced lunch application form that can be accessed at <http://greenville.schoollunchapp.com>"

If you have not already done so, we are asking all Washington Center parents to complete the Free/Reduced lunch application form that can be accessed at <http://greenville.schoollunchapp.com> or from a link on the Washington Center website. In the past some parents have not completed the forms because their children were tube fed,

had specialized diets or were homebound, but Title One funds are based on the percent of students at a school that qualify for assistance with meals, not the percent that actually eat the meals. If enough of our students are approved, we could become eligible for additional federal funds that would contribute tremendously to our program

here at school. All of the children would benefit from the additional financial support, so I hope you will take a few minutes to complete the form, either hard copy or online, and turn it in to your child's teacher or submit it to Food Services. The information you provide will be confidential. Thank you for your help.

Technology News



Frankie in Mrs. Stansell's classroom using the Doceri app on the iPad.

We are excited to inform you that all classrooms now have, or soon will have, iPads! Our teachers and therapists have been doing a wonderful job of integrating technology into the classrooms with the help of

several assistive technology devices and programs. One exciting tool available to teachers is the Doceri app. This one will enable students to manipulate the Promethean board themselves, directly from the

iPad. We have observed the Doceri app being used in several classrooms and are happy to add one more technology item to our teachers' toolboxes.

**"Come on out and enjoy a
FREE lasagna dinner and
fellowship with other
Washington Center
families and staff. "**

Day at the Museum

Join us for a day at the Children's Museum on November 6th! Sponsorship of this event is a gift to Washington Center students and their parents from the Greenville County Medical Society Alliance. Families are invited to join us, however, there will be an admis-

sion fee for non Washington Center children. Award winning photographer, Rick Guidotti, will be at the museum taking pictures of our students and after the trip, he will make the pictures available free of charge on a secure website.

Jenn Bostic



efforts was chosen last year to receive a portion of the money raised by our students during Spirit Week. As a thank you for that donation, she

We had a special visitor on campus on Friday, October 3rd, to give a concert. Some of you may know of singer/songwriter Jenn Bostic in that she has been a supporter of WC for several years. One of her charity

came to WC to sing for us. The concert was great; the kids loved it; and, we hope to soon have a video featuring them dancing and clapping to "Dance like Nobody's Watching", our students' favorite Jenn Bostic song.

25 Most Beautiful Women 2014

CONGRATUALTIONS to our very own Principal, Dr. Penny Rogers, for being honored as one of the upstate's most beautiful women by TALK Magazine. "Every year, [TALK

Magazine] honors women who have made our community more beautiful simply by the way they choose to live their lives." We are happy to have Dr. Rogers at Washington

From Our PTA President

Happy Fall from the Washington Center PTA! We hope everyone is excited to be back in school. The PTA is hard at work planning for a busy year and would always welcome family members of our students to join us for PTA meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 1:00 p.m.

Please do not forget to become a PTA member by sending in \$5.00 for dues, attention Sandy McDowell, our Membership chair. We are trying to reach a 100% participation rate! Time is flying by and Boo at School is just around the corner. Look for a flyer in your child's backpack. We would like to thank all those who sent in orders from Cherrydale Farms, our first fundraiser headed by Gloria Stamps, our Ways and Means chair. On October 24th, we will kick off our annual Honey-baked Ham fundraiser. The PTA receives 20% of all proceeds from the sale of HH gift certificates.

They do not expire and may be used at any Honey-baked Ham location. Family Night will be held Thursday, Nov. 6th from 6:00 to 7:30. Again, a flyer will be sent home with a request to let us know how many people to expect. Come on out and enjoy a **FREE** lasagna dinner and fellowship with other Washington Center families and staff. There will be representatives from several groups who work with special needs children. Some of them will be Family Connection, DDSN, Camp Spearhead, and FANS. There will also be a book fair in the library. Don't miss it!! (And yes, you should get home in time for the Clemson game!) The PTA is always on the lookout for Sponsors for our annual Walk and Roll at the end of April. If you know of a business willing to help please let us know! With joy,
Sarah Jane Tollison
PTA President



Dr. Penny Rogers, Award picture from TALK's 25 Most Beautiful Women 2014

Center. You can find the news article at <http://www.greenvilleonline.com/story/life/style/talk-greenville/2014/09/29/talk-25most-2014/16440381>

Challenge Day

Washington Center students participating in the 2014 Challenge Day at Bob Jones University.



LET ME WIN, BUT IF I CANNOT WIN, LET ME BE BRAVE IN THE ATTEMPT!